

## **Violent Crime Coordinating Council (VCCC) 2/11/2015 Meeting Minutes**

**Members present:** Tracy Perzel (for Andy Luger); David Voigt; John Gross; Richard Dusterhoft; Ken Reed (for Thomas Smith); Kris Arneson (for Janee Harteau); Andy Bohlen; Pete Dietzman (for Rich Stanek); Brent Lindgren; Brian Mueller (for William Hutton); Jared Rosati; Cari Gerlicher; Tenzien Dolkar; Melvin Carter; Hector Garcia; and Jeff Hanson (for Drew Evans).

**Members absent:** David Hermerding; Matt Bostrom; and Mike Goldstein.

**DPS Staff:** Tricia Hummel; Brian Marquart; Kristin Lail and Scott Wasserman.

**Guests:** Barbara Carter and Katrina Howard from PMP; Manny Munson-Regala and Michelle Larson from the MDH; Matthew St. George and Jon Rykeley from DEA; Calvin Meyer from ATF; Kate Nichols from U.S. Postal Service; and Sandra Westerman from the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office. There was also one public observer.

### **Meeting materials:**

- VCCC 2/11/15 agenda
- 12/10/14 draft meeting minutes
- 2015 VCCC membership list
- 2015 VCCC Committee Structure
- 2014 VCET Fact Sheet
- Proposed changes to the Multijurisdictional Task Force Guidelines Manual
- 2/11/15 Statewide Commander Report
- 2016-17 VCET Legislative Funding Proposal
- 2014 VCCC Annual Report to the Legislature

**Location:** Minnesota Department of Corrections, Pung Conference Room.

**Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting was convened at 10:04 by Ken Reed since the Chair position was vacant and Vice Chair Goldstein was absent.

***M/S/P (Mueller/Day) for Ken Reed to serve as Acting Chair for this VCCC meeting.***

***M/S/P (Day/Bohlen) to approve meeting minutes from 12/10/14.***

***M/S/P (Gerlicher/Perzel) to approve the 2/11/15 agenda.***

### **Membership Updates**

The Acting Chair welcomed new VCCC members: Mille Lacs County Sheriff Brent Lindgren, representing the Minnesota Sheriff's Association; Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Police Chief Jared Rosati, representing Tribal Police Chiefs; Tenzien Dolkar representing the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans; and Steven Day representing the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council.

### **VCCC Annual Report and VCET Grant Update**

Kristin Lail provided an overview of the 2104 VCCC Annual report and VCET Fact Sheet, which summarizes data presented by the Statewide Coordinator at the previous meeting. Both items can be found on the VCCC section of the OJP website.

## **Board of Pharmacy, Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)**

Barbara Carter and Katrina Howard provided an overview of the state PMP program and preliminary data on types and amounts of drugs prescribed. They also discussed the Controlled Substance Insight Alert (CISA) which is used to identify and reduce prescription drug abuse, misuse, and diversion by identifying patients with multiple prescriptions, prescribers and pharmacies. Members asked about the data retention policy, controlled substances scheduling process and pharmacy take-back proposal. A copy of the presentation was forwarded to members after the meeting.

## **Statewide Gang and Drug Commander Update**

Brian Marquart provided a summary of VCET training and technical assistance activities for the past two months including attendance at the National Narcotics Officers Association Annual meeting in Washington DC. Marquart drafted an overview of Midwest drug trends which was included in the NNOA national publication. He discussed possible decreases in federal funding for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program and RISS/SAFE data system. He noted increases in methamphetamine seizures and the manufacture of butane hash oil (BHO) or marijuana wax. He is planning the agenda for the March VCET commanders meeting with speakers from several federal and state agencies. Office of the State Auditor will present on best practices in law enforcement evidence and the Department of Human Services will address data issues related to methadone diversion cases.

## **VCCC Elections**

The Acting Chair noted that a quorum was in attendance and opened the floor for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. VCCC General Counsel clarified that the chair must be a representative from the 7-county metro area. Jeff Hanson nominated Plymouth Police Chief Mike Goldstein for VCCC Chair. He had previously notified the Executive Committee that he would accept the nomination. He was elected Chair unanimously. Next, Kris Arneson nominated Department of Corrections, Office of Special Investigations Director Cari Gerlicher for Vice Chair, which she declined due to a conflict of interest with employment by the Executive Branch. Gerlicher then nominated Washington County Sheriff's Office Commander Brian Mueller for VCCC Vice Chair, which he accepted. Mueller was elected Vice Chair unanimously. Ken Reed thanked members for their thoughtful consideration and welcomed new leaders.

## **LUNCH BREAK**

## **Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Medical Cannabis**

Manny Munson-Regala and Michelle Larson provided an overview of the implementation of Minnesota's medical marijuana law. They have selected two licensed manufacturers, which each have one manufacturing site for cultivation and processing and four distribution sites. Members asked about security standards, patient identification process and a product packaging plans. A copy of the presentation was forwarded to members after the meeting.

## **Standing Committee Updates**

**Community Engagement Subcommittee:** Hector Garcia welcomed new community representatives to the VCCC and referred to the community engagement section of the VCCC annual report. A second Ramsey County roundtable was held in North St. Paul with participants from Maplewood, St. Paul and Oakdale. There was a good discussion on police community trust and a follow-up meeting is scheduled

for March 19<sup>th</sup>. Community engagement has shifted from the VCET commanders to the advisory boards where Chief Law Enforcement Officers participate. The committee will look at other VCET advisory board schedules and develop a feedback mechanism for pilot sites. The General Counsel noted that the VCCC was obligated to engage the community in the development of gang criteria so that topic should be considered in roundtable discussions. There have also been broader national conversations on law enforcement and community through the President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing, which is publishing an interim report in March. [http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/Interim\\_TF\\_Report.pdf](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/Interim_TF_Report.pdf)

**Data Committee:** Jeff Hanson reported that the Midwest Gang Investigators Association conference will be in St. Paul at the end of the month. Brian Marquart and Ben Campbell will be presenting on the VCET gang trends, gang criteria and data system. Hennepin County recently issued a bulletin on a large gang investigation and the Minneapolis Police Department has developed a new gang unit. The Statewide Gang and Drug Coordinator will convene a meeting with metro gang representatives to discuss submissions to the state gang data system.

**Governance Committee:** Tricia Hummel recognized the leadership of Ken Reed, who was retiring at the end of the month. He summarized several law enforcement topics under consideration by the Minnesota legislature, including body cameras, license plate readers, forfeiture and sentencing guidelines. He clarified that no VCCC action is required on the 2016-17 Legislative funding proposal presented at the December VCCC meeting as it was not included in the Governor's budget. He noted that St. Paul Commander Rob Thomasser would be taking his place on the VCCC at the next meeting, and a new chair for the Governance Committee is needed.

**Professional Standards Committee:** Cari Gerlicher reviewed the recommended changes in the personnel section 2-01.1 of the Guidelines Manual regarding the ethical behavior of commanders and investigators. She noted that the change passed at the December meeting was incomplete and that this modification would address both commander assignment, supervision and disciplinary action and also investigator selection, probation and background.

***M/S/P (Gerlicher/Bohlen) Motion to amend the personnel section of the Multijurisdictional Task Force Guidelines Manual. The motion passed with a note to change the manual section numbers accordingly.***

**M/S/P (Gerlicher/Bohlen) Motion to Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at the Minnesota Department of Corrections.